AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- A protective ring for (Currently Amended) protective casing of a gas turbine engine, comprising a an alternation οf sleeve having penetration interconnected strata, each comprising a metal band and a layer; wherein opposite polymer-impregnated fiber-weave metal respective circumferential ends οĒ each circumferentially overlap one another and respective ones of the fiber-weave layers extend between the circumferentially overlapped ends of adjacent metal bands.
- 2. (Original) A protective ring in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the polymer-impregnated fiber-weave layers comprise at least one of glass fibers, polyethylene fibers, polyamide fibers, aramide fibers and carbon fibers impregnated with at least one of polyester and highly energy-absorbing resins, and the metal bands are constructed of at least one of aluminum, titanium and nickel base alloy.
- 3. (Original) A protective ring in accordance with Claim 2, wherein at least one of polyamide and polyethylene fibers known under the trade names KEVLAR and DYNEEMA, respectively, are included in the fiber-weave layers.
- 4. (Original) A protective ring in accordance with Claim 3, wherein both an inner and outer circumferential surface are each formed by a metal band.

5. (Original) A protective ring in accordance with Claim 4, wherein multi-stratum strips of metal bands and fiber-weave layers are joined at the ends by an adhesive to form the protective ring.

6. (Cancelled)

- 7. (Currently Amended) A protective ring in accordance with Claim <u>56</u>, comprising at least two penetration sleeves with matching diameters assembled into one another to obtain a specific large wall thickness.
- 8. (Original) A protective ring in accordance with Claim 1, wherein multi-ply strips of metal bands and polymer-bonded fiber-weave layers are wound spirally to obtain a protective ring of sufficient wall thickness.
- 9. (Original) A protective ring in accordance with Claim 1, having sufficiently large wall thickness to act as a full containment.
- 10. (Original) A protective ring in accordance with Claim 1, comprising a trapping layer of fiber material positioned outside the penetration sleeve for arresting breakthrough of fan blade fragments.
- 11. (Original) A protective ring in accordance with Claim 1, comprising outer and inner bands constructed of sheet metal and at least one metallic intermediate band constructed of a

metal weave of at least one of nickel, titanium, iron and aluminum.

- 12. (Original) A protective ring in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the fiber layers are wound and comprising two outer flanges being conformally integrated by the wound fiber layers.
- 13. (Original) A protective ring in accordance with Claim 1, wherein both an inner and outer circumferential surface are each formed by a metal band.
- 14. (Original) A protective ring in accordance with Claim 13, wherein multi-stratum strips of metal bands and fiberweave layers are joined at the ends by an adhesive to form the protective ring.

15. (Cancelled)

- 16. (Currently Amended) A protective ring in accordance with Claim 1415, comprising at least two penetration sleeves with matching diameters assembled into one another to obtain a specific large wall thickness.
- 17. (Original) A protective ring in accordance with Claim 1, wherein multi-stratum strips of metal bands and fiber-weave layers are joined at the ends by an adhesive to form the protective ring.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Original) A protective ring in accordance with Claim 1, comprising at least two penetration sleeves with matching diameters assembled into one another to obtain a specific large wall thickness.